

Chairman Julius Genachowski Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, SW Washington, D.C. 20554

July 6, 2011

RE: In the Matter of applications of AT&T Inc. and Deutsche Telekom AG for consent to assign or Transfer Control of licenses and Authorizations (WT Docket No. 11-65).

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this comment on the possible merger of T-Mobile with AT&T. I represent the largest business association in Newton County, Georgia. We support this merger because it will improve our business climate, providing new opportunities for job growth and economic development.

For some time, leaders in Washington have talked about the importance of universal broadband, but the cost of expanding the service to reach rural areas like ours is prohibitive, particularly as the government is struggling to pay its bills and taxpayers don't want to work a tax hike into their budgets.

AT&T is offering an alternative to government-subsidized broadband as part of this merger. The company will invest its own money, over \$8 billion additional investment, to extend high-speed wireless broadband to over 97 percent of the country.

Wireless communications has become the lifeblood of business, as well as health care and education. A strong broadband network also provides a link between individuals and their friends and families. It is a highly innovative industry that spawns new opportunities for both new and existing businesses.

Newton County looks forward to the day when its citizens and business owners have the same access to high-speed broadband as its neighbors in Atlanta and other big cities. We hope you and your fellow commissioners will act swiftly to approve this merger, and let the build out begin.

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Sincerely,

Hunter Hall, President

ce: Commissioner Michael Copps

Commissioner Robert McDowell Commissioner Mignon Clyburn